

PVS Officials Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: October 1, 2024

Location: Zoom

Time: 7:01 PM

1. Call to Order

Chair Barb Ship called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. Roll Call

Present: Scott Witkin, Courtney Johnston, Barb Ship, Erika Livingston, Kelly Opipari, Rich McMillen, Elizabeth Jester, Paul Jampole, Tom Allison

Absent: Sabrina Boughanem, Cyrus Kuester-Ha, Nathan Widman, Jill Williams

Guests: Linda Tucker, Don Riedlinger, Ed Byers, Shayla Moore, Tim Husson

3. Approval of Minutes: April 24, 2024

- The minutes from the April 24, 2024 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Kelly Opipari to approve the minutes as presented.
 - Motion carried.
-

4. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees

- Committee Chair's Report (Barb Ship)
 - Meet referees/evaluators for this year's championship meets:
 - NCAP Invite: Lisa and Dave Olack (Evaluators), Bob Vincent (Meet Referee)

- SC Junior Champs: No updates yet
 - SC Senior Champs: Elizabeth Jester (Meet Referee), Jack Neill (Lead Evaluator)
 - SC Age Group Champs: No updates yet
 - LC Senior Champs: Anne Lawley (Lead Evaluator), No Meet Referee assigned (Date may change)
 - USA Swimming Clinics:
 - AO/Starter Clinic: October 1
 - Referee Clinic: April 1
 - Subcommittee Reports
 - Certification Subcommittee (Paul Jampole):
 - Certification updates were discussed.
 - Training, Mentoring, and Evaluation Subcommittee (Scott Witkin & Erika Livingston):
 - Planning is underway for fall clinics and the Guide for New Officials.
 - Challenges with tracking Zoom clinic attendance were noted.
 - Official Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee (Kelly Opipari):
 - The "Officials Party" had 110 attendees.
 - Future events and strategies for new officials chairs were discussed.
 - Recruitment efforts by York (15 new officials) and Fish (7 new officials) were acknowledged.
 - Liaison for Disability Swimming (Elizabeth Jester):
 - Guidelines for supporting coaches, parents, and athletes with disabilities are in the final stages of approval and will soon be posted on the USA Swimming website.
-

5. Old Business

- No unfinished items were carried over from the previous meeting.
-

6. New Business

- Athlete Representation on the Committee:
 - Discussion around recruiting athletes with family members who are officials or junior officials.
- National Meets and Reimbursement Levels:
 - 2024 - 2025 travel reimbursement levels were discussed with a recommendation to increase reimbursement in line with PVS athletes.
 - Motion to approve increased maximum reimbursement to \$700 - Winter US Open, Winter Junior Nats, Open Water Nats, Para Nats and \$800 - Summer Nats, Summer Jr Nats and keep the remaining meets at current limits.
 - A motion was made by Kelly Opiari to approve, second by Rich McMillen.
 - Motion carried.
- Anniversary Badges:
 - Discussion around awarding badges based on PVS service years or total years of officiating.
 - Motion to create PVS anniversary badges based on PVS service years and not total USA Swimming officiating time.
 - A motion was made by Kelly Opiari to approve, second by Courtney Johnston.
 - Motion carried.
- Distribution of Bells, Clipboards, etc. (Barb Ship):
 - Distribution responsibilities were assigned to Elizabeth Jester and Tom Allison.
- New Training Available Online for New Officials (Scott Witkin):
 - Ongoing updates were discussed, including changes in evaluation forms for Stroke & Turn and AO roles.
- Junior Official Category:
 - Updates on the junior official program and associated registration issues were reviewed.
- Registration Issues:

- Officials facing registration issues should contact the PVS registrar directly for assistance.

- Meeting Dates

The committee agreed on the following meeting dates for 2025:

- January 7, 2025
- April 1, 2025
- July 1, 2025
- Fall meeting: Tentatively set for September or October 2025.

These dates were tentatively approved, with flexibility to adjust the July meeting date if necessary.

7. Closed Session

- USA Swimming Officials Excellence Award
 - Boots Hall Award
 - Review of Evaluator/Clinician Applications:
-

8. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:59 PM